BRIGHTLINGSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health for 1953

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BRIGHTLINGSEA

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Brightlingsea Urban District Council

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1953.

Chairman: Cr. C. O. FENSOM, J.P.

Vice Chairman: Cr. Q. R. CLARKE.

Members of the General Health Committee:

Chairman: Cr. R. V. CROOK.

Cr. A. P. BFNDALL, Cr. I. C. OSBORN,

Cr. C. O. FENSOM, Cr. H. G. POLLEY,

Cr. R. B. WHITE.

Public Health Officers:

F. L. GROARKE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H., Medical Officer of Health.

R. BOAST, C.S.I.E J.B., A.R.S.I., M.R I.P H.H., Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor, Meat and Food Inspector, Officer under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

I. S. PRIEST, Waterworks Manager.

To the Chairman and Members of the Brightlingsea Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have again the honour to submit to you my Annual Report which deals with the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for this year 1953, and which is compiled in accordance with instructions set out in Ministry of Health circulars.

The town has an older age structure of population than is the average for the country which accounts for the high death rate and low birth rate, but in comparing our rates with other districts, making allowances for the inequalities in age groups, our rates compare well.

The district was fortunate in that the flooding which affected the town early in the year caused no loss of life, but was responsible for much damage to property, and inundated both the Lower Park Waterworks and the Sewage Works. Fortunately the Church Road well was capable of maintaining the town's supply for the period of nearly six weeks before water from the Lower Park Works was fit for drinking again. Much contaminated salt water entered the well from the surface, and it was considered advisable to chlorinate water from this source before circulation to consumers. This precautionary measure is being continued, and should act as an additional safeguard against any risk of contamination. The Sewage Works was out of action for about a month, during which time crude sewage was discharged into the flooded matshes.

Apart from measles which was very prevalent in the district, we did not have many cases of infectious disease, and, in general, it may be said that the health of the district was satisfactory.

I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the co-operation of the staff and members of the Council, and in particular, Mr. R. J. Boast, the Council's Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
F. L. GROARKE.
Medical Officer of Health.

Section A.

Statistical Memorandum for the Urban District of Brightlingsea.

0.57

9.0

42.5

| Area in acres | ***** | ****** | ***** | | 2,852 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|------------|-------------|
| Population: | | | | | |
| 1953 Registrar G | ieneral's E | stimate | ***** | | 4,515 |
| | **** | | ***** | ***** | 4,502 |
| Density of Population per | acre | **** | ****** | ***** | 1.5 |
| D-4 1-1- 17-1 | *** | ***** | *87010 | 7 | £23,454 |
| Sum represented by penny | | | ****** | | (90.18s 7d. |
| Number of inhabited hou | | ****** | | | 1,692 |
| Total Live Births | **** | ***** | ****** | ***** | 47 |
| Dinth mate | | ***** | ****** | ***** | 10.40 |
| Right mate compacted | ***** | ****** | ***** | 00.000 | 12.37 |
| Total Still Birtha | ***** | | **** | | Nil ' |
| Still Birth Rate | ****** | ****** | ***** | ***** | Nil |
| Total Dootha | ****** | | | | 72 |
| Death rate | | ***** | ******* | ****** | • |
| D. d. d. s. s. de J. | ****** | ** ** ** | ***** | ****** | 15.94 |
| | | | 4***** | ****** | 9.08 |
| Death of Infants under I | | ٤ | ****** | ***** | 2 |
| | : | ** ** ** | ***** | ***** | 42.55 |
| Number of Illegitimate B | | | 000000 | -64404 | Nil |
| Percentage of Total Births | | | | ***** | Nil |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (u | inder 2 yea | ars of ag | e) | ••••• | Nil |
| Total Cancer Deaths | | ***** | ***** | ***** | 13 |
| Total Tuberculosis Death | ıs | ***** | ****** | | I |
| | | | | | |
| | VITAI | STAT | ISTICS. | | |
| | VIIIL | 01211 | 101100. | | |
| (a) LIVE BIRTHS. | | | | | |
| | | | Male | Female | Total |
| Legitimate | | | 22 | 25 | 47 |
| Illegitimate | | ***** | Nil | Nil | |
| Birth Rate | ****** | ***** | 400+44 | ***** | 10.4 |
| Comparability Fa | actor | 000 000 | **** | ** *** | 1.19 |
| Corrected Birth | | ***** | ***** | | 12.37 |
| | | | | | 3, |
| (b) STILL BIRTHS. | | | | | |
| Still Births | ***** | ***** | ***** | ***** | Nil |
| Still Birth Rate | | ***** | ***** | ***** | Nil |
| | | | | | |
| (c) DEATHS. | | | | n . | . |
| | | | Male | Female | Total |
| Deaths | - | ***** | 46 | 26 | 72 |
| Death Rate | ***** | ***** | ***** | ****** | 15.9 |
| O .1.11'4 17 | | | | | |

Comparability Factor

Corrected Death Rate

Infant Mortality Rate

Number of deaths under 1 year of age

INFANT DEATHS

(d)

TABLE I.

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1953.

| Under 1 year | ***** | ***** | 2 |
|--------------|-------|-------|----|
| 15—25 years | | | I |
| 35-45 ,, | | ••••• | I |
| 45-55 ,, | ***** | ••••• | 5 |
| 55—65 ,, | • | ••••• | 10 |
| 65—75 ,, | ••••• | ••••• | 18 |
| 75 upwards | ••••• | | 35 |
| | | | |
| | | | 72 |
| | | | |

TABLE II.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1953.

| Causes of Death | | | Male | Female | Total |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory | • | | I | 0 | I |
| Tuberculosis, other forms | • | ***** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Syphilitic disease | | | Ī | 0 | I |
| Other infective and parasitic di | | | - T | 0 | 1 |
| Cancer (all sites) | | | 8 | ξ. | 13 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous sys | | •••• | 7 | 2 | -2 |
| Coronary Artery disease | | ••••• | 1 | 7 T | , |
| Other heart disease | ****** | ***** | 4 | Ŕ | 7.2 |
| Other circulatory disease | ****** | ***** | 4 | 5 | - 6 |
| Pneumonia | ••• | ••••• | , , | 5 | 6 |
| Branchitia | • | ••••• | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| | | ****** | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| Other diseases of respiratory sy | | ••••• | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenu | m | ••••• | I | 0 | I |
| Nephritis and nephrosis | ••••• | | I | I | 2 |
| Hyperplasis of prostate | ••••• | ••••• | 2 | О | 2 |
| Other defined and ill-defined d | iseases | | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | · ···· | ••••• | I | 0 | Ĭ |
| All other accidents | ••••• | • | 2 | I | 3 |
| Suicide | ••••• | ••••• | I | O | Ī |
| | | | | | _ |
| | | | 46 | 26 | 72 |
| | | | | | |

TABLE III.

The following table shows the cause of, and the age at death, of the 2 infantile deaths registered:—

| | | Under 1 day | | 1 month to 6 months | |
|-------------------|---|-------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Broncho-pneumonia | • | | I | I | 2 |

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

TABLE IV.

Birth rates, Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1953. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION.

| BIRTHS | | B.U.D.C. | England & Wales |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Live Births | | 10.4 | 15.5 |
| Still Births | ****** | 00.00 | 0.35 |
| | | | 00 |
| DEATHS. | | | |
| All Causes | | 15.9 | 11.4 |
| Typhoid & Par | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Whooping Cou | gh | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| Diphtheria | | 0.00 | 0 00 |
| Tuberculosis | ***** | 0.22 | 0.20 |
| Influenza | ***** | 0.00 | 0.16 |
| Smallpox | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Acute Poliomye | elitis (including | | |
| po | olioencephalitis. | 0.00 | 10.0 |
| Pneumonia | | 1.32 | 0.55 |
| NOTIFICATIONS (Co. | rracted) | | |
| | | | |
| Typhoid Fever | | 0.00 | 0,00 |
| Paratyphoid Fe | | 0.00 | 10.0 |
| Meningococcal | Infection | 0 00 | 0.03 |
| Scarlet Fever | | 1.10 | 1.39 |
| Whooping Cou | gh | 1.10 | 3.58 |
| Diphtheria | •••• | 0.00 | 10.0 |
| Erysipelas | •••• | 0.00 | 0.14 |
| Smallpox | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Measles | | 27.68 | 12.36 |
| Pneumonia | 1'.' '.' 1 1' | 0.66 | 0.84 |
| Acute Poliomy | elitis (including | | |
| | olioencephalitis) | | |
| | ralytic | 0.00 | 0.07 |
| R ID: | on-Paralytic | 0.00 | 0.04 |
| Food Poisoning | g | 0.00 | 0.24 |
| | | | |

RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

DEATHS.

| All causes under 1 year of Enteritis and diarrhoea und | age der | 42.55 | 26.8 |
|---|------------|-------|------|
| 2 years of age | | 00.00 | 1.1 |

NOTIFICATIONS (corrected) Rates per 1,000 Total (live and still births).
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia 00.00 18.23

General Provision of Health Services.

Medical Officer of Health F. L. GROARKE, M.B, B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.C.H. Also Assistant County Medical Officer and Medical Officer for Tendring R.D.C., Clacton U.D.C., Frinton and Walton U.D.C.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Borough General Hospital, Ipswich.

Pathological examinations are carried out at the Essex

County Hospital, Colchester.

The bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk supplies, and ice cream, is carried out at the Public Health

Laboratory, Ipswich.

Samples for the chemical analysis of water and sewage are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

This service is maintained by the County Council.

HOSPITALS. (N.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board). Essex County Hospital, Colchester and Clacton District Hospital serves the area.

Maternity cases are admitted to the Maternity Hospital,

32, Lexden Road, Colchester.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Myland Hospital, Colchester.

MIDWIVES AND HOME NURSING.

It is a duty of the Local Health Authority to provide domiciliary midwives, and nurses to attend persons who require nursing in their own homes. For this purpose a District Nurse Midwife is employed in the Urban District.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

A County Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held in the New Church School Room each Wednesday from 2 to

4.30 p.m.

Anti-diphtheria inoculations are carried out on the first Wednesday in each month also boosting doses to children from 5 to 15 years of age at the New Church School Room.

THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE AMENDMENT ACT, 1951.

It was not necessary to take formal action under this Act

during the year.

Many visits are made to the homes of old people and assistance given where necessary. There are so many different departments dealing with old people that the Public Health Officers are looked on as connecting links with these departments, and there is much liaison with the Welfare Department, Essex County Council, the Regional Hospital Board, the Home Help Department, the National Assistance Board, the Mental Welfare Officers, family doctors, nurses and various voluntary organisations.

Informal action is preferred by us, and accommodation was found for a number of old people who were past caring for

themselves in hostels, homes, hospitals and institutions.

Section C.

Sanitary Conditions.

The principal inspections and work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's department during 1953 were as follows:—

| inspector of department during 1999 were do rono wy | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| HOUSIN | IG INSPECTIONS. | | | | No. of Ir | spections. |
| (a) | General inspection | ns for repair | rs etc. | ***** | ***** | 90 |
| (b |) Complaints investi | igated | ••••• | ***** | ***** | 30 |
| (c) | | ***** | | ***** | ••••• | 86 |
| (d) | | | wding (For | m "B") | ***** | 2 |
| (e) | Overcrowding rein | spections | ***** | ••••• | | 2 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | ERAL INS | PECTION | S. | | |
| | kehouses | | ••••• | ••••• | ***** | 8 |
| | omplaints investigated | l | ••••• | ••••• | ***** | 44 |
| | airies and Milkshops | ••••• | ••••• | | ****** | 28 |
| | sinfections | ••••• | | ••••• | ••••• | 5 |
| | ctories and Workshop | ps | ***** | ••••• | ***** | 46 |
| | sh Friers | ***** | ***** | ***** | ** **** | 4 |
| | oirdressers | | ••••• | ***** | ****** | 5 |
| In: | fectious Diseases inve | - | ••••• | | ****** | 5 |
| | eat Inspections | ***** | •••• | ••••• | ***** | 70 |
| | iblic Houses iblic Conveniences | ••••• | ***** | ••••• | ***** | 15 |
| | t Infestation | ***** | •••• | ***** | ••••• | 146 |
| | fuse Disposal | ••••• | ••••• | ••••• | ***** | 89 21 |
| | hools | ••••• | ***** | ****** | ***** | 3 |
| ~ | wers, Ditches, Drains | and Cesson | | ***** | ••••• | 68 |
| | ops | | | | ****** | 20 |
| | ughterhouse s | | ***** | | ***** | 2 |
| | ents, Vans and Sheds | | | | | 5 |
| | rminous Premises | | | ••••• | ***** | _ |
| W | ater Supplies | ***** | ***** | ***** | **** | 22 |
| | Cream Dealers | | ••••• | ***** | ••••• | 22 |
| | | | | | - | |
| | | | | | Total | 838 |
| | | | | | - | |
| | STATIII | ΓORY NO | TICES SER | VFD | | |
| T.T. | | | | | | |
| | ousing Acts Iblic Health Act | • | ••••• | ••••• | ***** | 4 |
| | ther Acts | ****** | ****** | ••••• | **** | |
| O | TIEL ACIS | ••••• | ***** | ****** | ***** | _ |
| | INFOR | MAL NOT | CICES SER | VFD | | |
| r | | | | TLU | | -6- |
| In | connection with all i | nspections | ••••• | ****** | ***** | 165 |
| CONTRAVENTIONS AND DEFECTS REMEDIE. | | | | | | |
| 0 | | | | O ACESTVI | | -6- |
| | ontraventions and De | | | | | 165 |
| | ontraventions and De ontraventions and De | | | x.) | ***** | 160 |
| CC | intraventions and De | iecis outstai | namg | ***** | ••••• | 5 |
| | | 0 | | | | |

WATER SUPPLY.

| No | o. of samples taken | Sources | Satisfactory | Un- Satisfactory |
|----|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | 14 | Lower Park Road W/Works | 10 | 4 |
| | | Moveron's Farm Cottages | 2 | |
| | 2 | Church Road Waterworks | 2 | |
| | 2 | Morses Farm | | 2 |
| | | | | |
| | 20 | | 14 | 6 |
| | | | | |

An additional well at Moveron's Farm was found to be unsafe for drinking purposes after analysis and owners of the property in question have been asked to provide an alternative supply of drinking water without delay.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage disposal plants continue to produce very satisfactory effluent, but some difficulty has been experienced in disposing of fairly large amounts of sludge which are produced.

During summer months the sludge dries fairly quickly and is taken away by local farmers, and an additional sludge drying

bed has been constructed for use during winter months.

The condition of the sewage system is generally very satisfactory, but there is much old drainage work in parts of the town which needs re-construction to bring it into line with modern standards.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

Refuse continues to be disposed of by means of controlled tipping and is collected from every household once each week.

Following the disastrous high tide of January 31st, the mills which received salvage paper at Purfleet, Essex, were put out of action and it was necessary to limit drastically the amount of paper dispatched to them.

In addition to severe restrictions on the amount of paper sold to the mill, the price paid for salvage paper was reduced further from £7/10/0 to £6/10/0 per ton, but, nevertheless, 56 tons of paper were sold and realized the sum of £350/0/7.

FACTORY INSPECTIONS.

| Premises | No. on | | Number of | |
|---|----------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Premises | Register | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities. | 4 | 8 | | |
| Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local | | | | |
| Authority | 23 | 51 | 5 | |
| Total | 27 | | 5 | |

Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

| Particulars | N | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | | | |
|---|---------|--|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| . Particulars | Found | Remedied | Refe | rred | No. of | |
| | | T | o H.M. Insp.b | y H. M. Insp. | prose- cutions | |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) Sanitary Conveniences, (| S.7.) 3 | 3 | _ | _ | - | |
| a. Insufficient | | _ | | _ | _ | |
| b. Defective | 2 | 2 | _ | _ | | |
| c. Not separate | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ | |
| d. Other offences | | _ | _ | _ | _ | |
| Total | | | | | | |

Outwork:

| Nature of Work | No. of out-workers in August list requ. by Sect. 110(1)(c). | No. of cases of default in sending lists. | Prosecutions |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------|
| Wearing apparel, (Making etc.) | 11 | _ | _ |

DFSTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

No serious cases of rat infestation occurred round dwelling houses during the year, and most of the very minor infestations dealt with consisted of isolated cases where one or two rats had established themselves near back yard poultry or in garden sheds. Such cases were dealt with by the Council's Rodent Destroyer, free of charge.

One major infestation was found at a farm and 96 lbs. of poison bait was consumed before the infestation was completely eradicated. This work was carried out by the Council's Staff and "follow up" treatment has been carried

out by the farm occupier.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND HOUSEBOATS.

One new site for four Caravans was licenced during the year and one

licence for a single caravan was renewed.

With the coming into force of the Essex County Council's Act of 1952, measures for the control of house boats became available and the 1st April, 1953 was fixed as the appointed day for purposes of the Act.

Draft conditions for attachment of licences authorising the mooring and use of house boats were agreed upon after consultation between local Authorities

affected and were adopted by the Council for use in the Urban District.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

| T | Results of 1 Type of Milk | nilk sampling were as fol Samples taken | llows :— Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
|---|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| _ | | | | |
| T | .T. Tested | 2 | 2 | |
| P | asteurised | 4 | 4 | - |
| U | ngraded | 6 | 5 | I |

The following Licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949 :-

Tuberculin Tested (Dealer's Licences)

6

Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary) ĭ

Pasteurised (Supplementary)

Pasteurised (Dealer's Licences)

Sterilized (Dealer's Licences)

MEAT.

Routine inspections of butchers shops and meat stores were carried out. The following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption: 280 lbs Mutton. (Deep scated moulds and decomposition).

Bacon.

UNFIT FOOD.

The undermentioned foodstuffs were also condemned :-

2 lbs. 2 Tins 141 oz. 2 Tins 14½ oz. (Tin large.

Carnation Milk. Ideal Milk. Nestles.

2-1 lbs Tins 1-7 oz Tins. 1-11 lbs 3 oz Tins. 1-15 Pint Tin. Stewed Steak. Luncheon Meat.

Ham.

"Mountain Maid" Evaporated Milk.

ICE CREAM.

Twenty premises are registered for the storage and sale of Ice Cream, and routine inspections of all premises were carried out during the year.

Results of sampling were as follows:-

Number of samples complying with Ministry of Health Provisional. Grade 1. Grade 2. Grade 3.

12

5

HOUSING.

Ten Council Houses and thirteen private dwellings were

completed during the year.

The general standard of housing in the district remains fairly satisfactory, but many of the older properties show signs of dampness due to lack of damp proof course or softening of brick due to age.

R. BOAST, C.S.I.E.J.B., A.R.S.I., M.R.I.P.H. (Cert. Meat & Foods).

Section D.

Housing.

| I | —Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year 1953. 1. (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for | |
|---|--|------------|
| | housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts | 120 206 |
| | Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for | Nil Nil |
| | human habitation 4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of these under 3) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation | ı Nil |
| I | I. —Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices | s. |
| | Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their officers | 165 |
| I | II.—Action under Statutory Powers. | |
| | (a) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, Sec. 9, 10 and 16. | |
| | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices | 4 |
| | (a) By Owners (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts: | 3 |
| | r. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be | |
| | remedied | Nil |
| | (a) By Owners | Nil |
| | (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners (c) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, Secs. 11 & 13: 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which | Nil |
| | Demolition Orders were made 2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished (d) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, Sec. 12: | Nil |
| | 1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were | |
| | determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

HOUSING ACT 1936. Inspections re Permitted Numbers

| inspections to I climited I dillibers | ***** | ****** | 7 4 77 |
|---|-------|-----------|--------|
| Inspection re Overcrowding | | ***** | 2 |
| Enquiries for other Local Authorities | | ****** | Nil |
| Visits re permits for Timber (Flooring) | | , | Nil |
| Visits re Squatters | | | |
| | | | |
| NEW HOUSES ERECTED DU | IRING | 1053. | |
| By Private Enterprise | | Houses | 4 |
| y = 1111110 = 111111 = 11111 | | Bungalows | , |

Nil

10

Houses

TOTAL HOUSES ERECTED SINCE 1946.

By the Council

| 1946 | | 4 |
|------|-----------|----|
| 1947 | ••••• | 41 |
| 1948 | ••••• | 9 |
| 1949 | | 22 |
| 1950 | | 14 |
| 1951 | | 9 |
| 1952 | | 15 |
| 1953 | | 23 |
| | | |

Section E.

SHELLFISH (Mulluxan).

During 1953, 1,493,831 Oysters were passed through the Purification Tanks at Brightlingsea.

The number for the previous year were:

| 1952 | ***** | •••• | 1,510,952 |
|------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 1951 | | ****** | 1,948,775 |
| 1950 | •••• | ****** | 1,762,404 |
| 1949 | ***** | ***** | 1,757,793 |
| 1948 | ****** | ••••• | 2,044,741 |
| 1947 | | ****** | 1,294,900 |
| 1946 | ***** | ***** | 2,325,364 |
| 1945 | ***** | •••• | 1,665,347 |
| 1944 | | | 943,082 |
| 1943 | ***** | ***** | 940,658 |
| 1942 | ***** | ***** | 809,600 |
| 1941 | ***** | ***** | 2,055,714 |
| | | | |

Section F.

Prevention and Control of Infectious and other Diseases

The following figures show the number of cases of infectious diseases which

| were notified in the dist | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|--------|
| Disease | Total cases | Cases admitted | Total |
| | notified | to hospital | Deaths |
| Jaundice | 3 | _ | |
| Dysentery | I | | |
| Measles | 125 | — | _ |
| Pneumonia | 3 | _ | |
| Scarlet Fever | 5 | 3 | |
| Whooping Cough | 5 | _ | _ |
| | | | |
| | 142 | 3 | |

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Nowadays, because of immunisation, the fear of diphtheria attacking their children has been banished from the minds of most parents. This happy state of freedom from fear has mainly been brought about by the National Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign, now little more than ten years old. The success of this campaign speaks for itself when it is pointed out that in England and Wales in 1940 there were 2,480 deaths from diphtheria, whereas, in 1952 this figure was reduced to the extraordinary low level of 32. In addition, the amount of suffering and sorrow which has been spared cannot be calculated. The continued success of this life saving campaign can only be maintained with the co-operation of the parents who should have their children protected against diphtheria without delay. Immunis tion will be carried out by your family doctor, or at the infant welfare clinic.

During 1953, 55 children between nine months and five years, and one between five and fifteen were immunised by

family doctors and the welfare clinic.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Five cases of this disease were notified. An intensive immunisation campaign got under way during the second half of the year, and has proved very popular with parents. During that time 21 children in the Brightlingsea area received the full course of three injections, at monthly intervals, and we may expect a reflection of this preventive work in lower numbers of cases in future years.

TUBERCULOSIS 1953

Age groups of the three cases notified and one death during the year are given in the table below:

| | New Cases | | | Deaths | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|--------|-----------------|--------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------------|--|
| Ages | Respi | ratory | Non Respiratory | | Respi | Respiratory | | Non Respiratory | |
| in years | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | |
| 35-45 | ••••• | I | ***** | ***** | ***** | | | ***** | |
| 45-55 | I | | ***** | | ***** | ***** | | | |
| 75 upwards | I | • | | | I | **** | ***** | | |
| Totals | 2 | I | | | I | | | | |

New cases of Tuberculosis and deaths since 1939:-

| Year | New Cases | Deaths |
|------|-----------|--------|
| 1939 | 2 | 2 |
| 1940 | 0 | 2 |
| 1941 | 4 | 5 |
| 1942 | 5 | 3 |
| 1943 | 4 | 2 |
| 1944 | 4 | 0 |
| 1945 | 5 | I |
| 1946 | 5 | 0 |
| 1947 | 9 | I |
| 1948 | 2 | 2 |
| 1949 | 5 | 2 |
| 1950 | 4 | 2 |
| 1951 | 2 | 4 |
| 1952 | 6 | 0 |
| 1953 | 3 | 1 |

The following figures give the number of cases on the Register at the end of 1953:

TOTAL CASES ON REGISTER AT END OF 1953-33.

| I he age groups of | the cases | on the Ke | gister are as f | ollows: | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|--------|
| Age group in years | Respi | ratory | Non-Re | spiratory | Totals |
| r — 5 | _ | I | _ | I | 2 |
| 5—15 | | I | 2 | I | 4 |
| 15—25 | 3 | 2 | _ | | 5 |
| 25—35 | 2 | 3 | I | _ | 6 |
| 35—45 | 3 | I | _ | _ | 4 |
| 45-55 | 6 | I | I | - | 8 |
| 55 65 | 2 | I | _ | - | 3 |
| 75 upwards | I | | | - | I |
| Totals | 17 | 10 | 4 | 2 | 33 |

A recent Ministry of Health memorandum states that deaths from tuberculosis have been falling rapidly during the last five years but so far, this improvement has not been accompanied by a comparable reduction in the number of notifications.

There are two main sources of this infection, namely contact with an active case of respiratory disease, and in areas where milk is not all pasteurised, the consumption of raw milk containing live tubercle bacilli. From the point of view of the community at large the infected individual should ideally be isolated until he ceases to be infective, bur this may conflict violently with the patient's own interests. It is not practicable to isolate all such persons in institutions nor would it be justifiable to do so in a large proportion of the persons who are infective at any one time. Nevertheless, patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis should be treated under conditions which reduce to a minimum the risk of infection of others.

Action to eliminate bovine tuberculosis infection is proceeding, but it would appear that the only really safe milk is that which has been efficiently pasteurised.

It is essential that home conditions are suitable for cases that require segregation rather than treatment, as such persons should occupy a room to themselves, and the provision of a better house may be a necessity in any scheme for the prevention of tuberculosis.